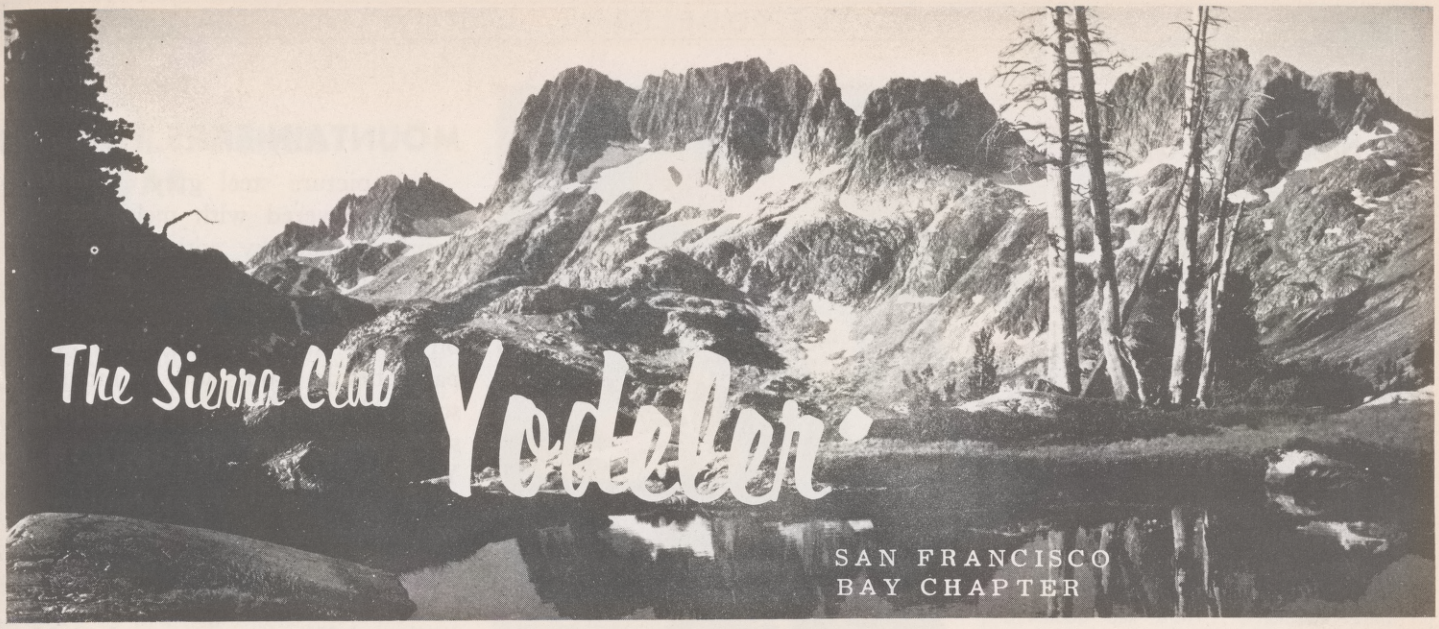


VOLUME XX APRIL 7, 1958 NUMBER 7

CONSERVATION: A ROUND-UP OF NEWS

The funds for *Tamalpais State Park* are still in the budget. So far, no one has objected to that item, but the fate of the budget is still uncertain.

There is no news of the *Wilderness Bill.* The *Recreation Resources Review* bill is waiting for a rule from the Rules Committee to bring it to the floor of the House. The omnibus Rivers and Harbors bill came out of conference committee, as we feared, with *Bruces Eddy Dam* back in it. It promptly passed both Houses and has gone to the President. We are urging him to veto the bill. The excuse that public works are needed carries no weight here for it will be years before actual construction begins.

Nez Perce Dam will be another blow to the northwest salmon spawning grounds. The Conservation Committee is asking the Board of Directors to support an amendment (introduced by Senator Neuberger) to the Federal Power Act requiring that projects be approved by the Department of the Interior after consultation and study by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

When Glen Canyon Dam was authorized elaborate protection for *Rainbow Bridge* was promised, to prevent

(Continued on Page 2)

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE TO MEET

The next meeting of the San Francisco Bay Chapter Executive Committee will be held in conjunction with the provisional organizational meeting of the proposed new Club chapter for the region north of the Bay area.

It will be held at 8 p.m. Monday, April 14, in room 84 of the Luther Burbank Memorial Theatre at Santa Rosa Junior College. The college is on the Healdsburg highway at the north end of Santa Rosa, to the east of the freeway at Elliott Ave.

FWOC CONVENTION

The 1958 Far West Outing Club convention will be held August 30 to September 1 at Boy Scout Camp Meriwether, a short distance south of Tillamook, Ore.

Reservations and $12 registration fee are due by August 15, and should be sent to Melvin P. Becker, 4015 N. E. Stanton St., Portland 12, Ore.

Further information is available from Becker.

ANNUAL DINNER

Big things are planned for the 1958 annual banquet, the evening of May 3 at the Leamington Hotel, 19th and Franklin Sts., Oakland.

Highlight of the evening will be a talk by Will Siri, copiously illustrated with pictures he took on the International Physiological Expedition to Antarctica.

Several Club sections will exhibit their photography and outing equipment.

The evening will begin with a social hour from 6 - 7 p.m. in the Victory Room, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. in the Crystal Ballroom.

Tables will be allotted to interest groups within the Club, with a host or hostess at each table to introduce you to newcomers and any others you may not recognize without beards.

A stamped, self-addressed envelope and $3.75 will reserve a place for you. Indicate the Club group you'd like to sit with and send your reservation to Georgella Perry, 2610 Etna St., Berkeley 4. Make checks payable to Sierra Club. (No tickets will be sold at the door.)

Deadline for reservations is April 29 —so act now. See you there!

—Bonnie Hubbard

Sierra Club Yodeler

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NEXT DEADLINE: APRIL 21, 1958

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CONSERVATION

(Continued from Page 1)

water flooding back and weakening the Bridge. So far, nothing has materialized, not even paper plans.

The Forest Service is about to set up a Wild Area on *South Warner Mountain*, under classification U2 (less than 100,000 acres but with full wilderness protection).

The *Bristlecone Pines* are in the news. After thousands of peaceful years these ancient trees have met their worst enemy — publicity. Articles in the Press and in the National Geographic magazine have attracted wide attention and the souvenir hunters are already at work. Who can best protect the trees, and how? The Forest Service might set up a Wild area, but there is already a road there, which cuts right through the forest to the top of the White Mountains. Should this be quire time and patience, and protec- a National Monument? This would re- tion is needed now. The Conservation Committee recommended that the Board ask for immediate protection which involves keeping someone on duty all the time the road is open, regardless which Service undertakes it. It is also hoped that the Board will consider requesting the President to declare it a National Monument.

—C.M.C.



"DANGER RIVER"

"Danger River," a film-lecture on a run by rubber boat through the Marble Gorge and Grand Canyon, will be presented at 8 p.m. Thursday, April 17, at the Berkeley High School Little Theatre.

The film was produced and is narrated by Charles Eggert, director of motion pictures for the National Parks Association and an honorary life member of the Club.

Full of adventure and of beauty, "Danger River" records for posterity a trip that dam construction has now made impossible.

"Danger River" is sponsored by the Bay Chapter and the Berkeley Recreation department. Admission is 75 cents.

Tickets are available at the Club office in SF, or from the Berkeley Recreation department, or Randal Dickey in Alameda, Lou Elliott in Oakland, Jean Bonner in Piedmont. Dickey has quantities of tickets available for those who would like to help in sales.



MOUNTAIN-EARS HEAR

Just picture steel grey mountains slightly covered with melting snow against a blue sky with white fluffy clouds just sort of lazily sitting there. Now imagine yourself stretched out on sweet smelling grass, with your pack beside you, and a mountain stream flowing by—you look up at the sky and breathe in that fresh, cool air. You hear the birds chirping away, and you hear some strange little noises that don't mean anything to you, they don't bother you either, in fact, they almost lull you to sleep. (Hey! wait a minute! Where are you going? Not hiking! It's not vacation time yet—but I know you wish it was!)

Remember now, when you do go on that trip to the mountains, do not forget your "Litter Bag." (That last statement was not intended for S.C. members, because they know better, but it was intended for your friends who might go along and don't know any better.)

Everybody on the *Yodeler* staff is wondering what *Howard* is doing right now—probably skiing somewhere in the Swiss Alps and forgotten all about us.

John Landon of the R.T.S. and Gloria Lee were married March 15 and are now living in San Leandro.

Joanne Taylor will be back teaching in Walnut Creek after spending one year in India. She and the *Rudi Finks* flew to Catmandu for Easter vacation. (Catmandu is situated at the foot of the Himalayas.) *Joanne's* house survived the winter except for the loss of a tree.

—N.P.

N.B. Doesn't *anyone* read the Yodeler? We have only *two* replies to our question, "What do you think about stables in Golden Gate Park?" More comment on this in next issue. So write us a card with your views.

NATURAL SCIENCE CALENDAR

April 28—Sunday

Signals over! The Sonoma County Natural Science Outing will be led by Anne and Fred Eissler. A short, very leisurely excursion into the wilder reaches of the Inez Ettelson ranch should give plenty of opportunity to use cameras and flower, fern and bird guidebooks. Likewise mushrooms and maybe even fish, the weather cooperating. Poison oak is sprouting beautifully, but the denser thickets will be avoided or brush-hooked.

Limited parking space at the ranch makes it necessary to meet not later than 9:30 a.m. in front of the mission in Sonoma. Those present will be shuttled to the ranch in as few cars as possible. Better bring water with your lunch. Mileage from SF or Oakland is roughly 50. Allow an hour and a quarter, or even longer if you enjoy gawking at the birds in the sloughs on the way up.

—Wilfred Ward

AUDUBON SOCIETY TOUR

The Golden Gate Audubon Society will hold a spring House and Garden Tour May 16 and 17, to raise money for its Sanctuary Fund.

Tickets are available from the National Audubon Society, 2426 Bancroft way, Berkeley.

The Society plans to acquire some valuable area of sanctuary land as a wildlife refuge.

The tour will cover several homes and gardens in the Piedmont-Montclair section of the East Bay.

APRIL 20 HIKING TRIP

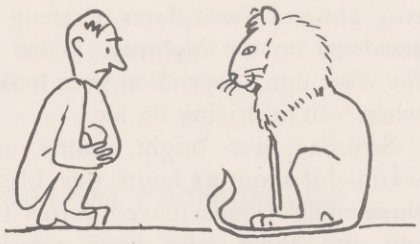
Refinement of plans for April 20 hiking trip: Bus and any cars will meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Calistoga S.P. depot to pick up Leader Eleanor Shaw. This is a repeat performance of an always-popular hike.



NATURAL SCIENCE REPORT

Feb. 21—*Howell*

Fun to sit up nights
Watching pteridophytes.



Feb. 28—*On the Dark Side*

"I scarcely think I like the Zoo
as much as other people do . . .
. . . all varieties of cat
make me feel dumpy, coarse and fat."

—H. Wolfe

March 15—*Back from the Mines*

Nortonville: your shoes get stuck
in the all-encircling muck.
Diablo: wash them off again
in the condenscending rain.

March 21—*Seismology*

It was nice to meet a science unbiased (or *almost* unbiased) by the pressure of practical applications. Public interest is something else again.



Spring Fever

Ninth magnitude Richter
may do the job quichter
but adequate inches of Jupiter Pluvius
are also able to movius.

—Wilfred Ward



Walter Strohmaier from the top of the Hermit.
Photo by Erwin Strohmaier

THE WIND BLOWS FREEL -

But we did have a highly rewarding discovery tour Saturday, March 29, across High Meadow from Heavenly Valley toward Freel Pk. All places are appropriately named. From High Meadow we glimpsed Lake Tahoe far below. Westward, clouds groped over the Sierra crest while the sun still glowed above. South, behind many passing veils of cloud and blowing powder, rose the highest peak to 10,900 feet, Freel, flanked by other peaks nearly as high. Its northeast bowl had "skiers paradise" written all over it yet there appeared not a mark on the 2000 vertical feet of snowy expanse. This is it. Truly a magnificent ski touring area to stand with Lassen, Pyramid, and Pear Lake.

The momentum of Chuck Edwards and Herb Steiner carried us a few hundred feet above our snow-camping objective; but it carried us just as easily down and onto Star Lake after inspecting contour maps. A cold wind was raging by the time the maps were pulled out and Earl Oliver chose this characteristic moment to change into long underwear.

In camp at Star Lake Ned Robinson, Pete Graf and others gathered squaw wood and built a roaring fire which also heated water for hot Jello, while chef Oliver, in another hole, stewed a delicious dish on his kerosene stove under the adversity of an intensifying wind.

Tents had been left behind; so snow trenches, ground sheets, and polyethylene were improvised into shelters. These were besieged by hurricane winds. Drifting, sifting powder snow melted against all sleeping bags but inside them it remained reasonably dry, comfortable, and restful—if not sleepful. Earl needed help to dig out of his trench after the night's snowfall.

Sunday the snow fell heavily as we retreated. Rather stiff trail breaking was required. The route contoured through endless ravines west of Monument Peak and the high Heavenly

(Continued)



CTL NEWS—MARCH 15-16

There'll be lots of spring skiing this year 'cause during the last week and weekend, we've had nothing but snow, snow, snow (Just ask the Homsey's). It all started during the week sometime and Friday night it was still coming down. Chains at 3000 feet — can you imagine? The road was lit in the rosy glow of Fusee flares, warning of accidents on the highway. Word to the wise: don't depend on your brakes when you're driving on ice.

Saturday was bright, sunny and warm—for about six hours, then black, threatening clouds moved across the sun and those who were wearing quilted parkas were very glad to have them.

Signal Hill was operating both days with snow a little bit lighter than the Sierra cement present at Donner Ski Ranch. It is in this type of snow especially, that the adage posted on the tree on Pump House Hill is true: "The holes you make, cause bones to break," therefore, please fill your sitzmarks.

The Sunday slalom was held Saturday. The Nature Friends held their championships and we ran it for fun. Unfortunately I didn't get the results, so we'll just have to speculate as to the winner.

Saturday night was movie time in the dining room—a beautifully photographed film on "Wildflowers of the West" and the other, "Natural Resources of Nevada." In the kitchen the first aid and bandaging class was held in preparation for the Regional Ski Patrol Toboggan Competition to be held April 26 at the Sugar Bowl.

Sunday most people, disgusted with the weather, left early, leaving nearly all the ski areas pleasantly unpopulated. About a foot of fairly good powder had fallen during the night, so the powder skiers had a good time.

—Roberta Codis

Valley. This is *not* the way to go. Our final drop to the ski lodge and car was down through 1½ to 2 feet of new snow that permitted slow but easy turns. There we learned of the Stanford skiers stalled by a pneumonia case at Mt. Lyell and were grateful for our own scouting trip which had been so successful and enjoyable though somewhat eventful. I, for one, had felt nearer to His might and His mercy.

A sidelight was the number of equipment repairs: a broken arlberg strap with wire, a broken toe strap with cord, a broken cable replaced with a spare, and a broken Ski-free boot cleat neatly repaired by Earl while he rested (?) on one elbow in his tight snow trench. Like a good Boy Scout, a ski tourer must "be prepared."

—Neil Anderson

ANCIENT CIVILIZATIONS

Mr. Joe Ferry has worked up an interesting program on the ruins of the Near and Far East. He took a year off from his work, and after intensive study began his travels into these places of antiquity. The Natural Science Section were so astonished by his account last year that we feel fortunate indeed that he is able to entertain and enlighten the East Bay Dinner, Wednesday, April 23.

Please phone Helen Waterman at HIghgate 4-1652 by Monday, April 21, before 10 P.M. for your dinner reservation at Willard Jr. High School, Berkeley.

—Elaine Carl



RIVER TOURING SECTION

Our first training session was a success with 40 interested persons appearing to hear Red Cockerline teach and demonstrate correct paddling technique for Kayackers. Red did a beautiful job of this. He also showed an excellent film he and Bryce Whitmore edited from movies which they had taken to show how to paddle correctly. The second film shown was that of Bruce Grant's in which he demonstrated how to do the Eskimo Roll. Will we beginners ever be able to do this?

Our second training session was ably handled by Glenn Gaumer, who taught how to read the waters and to interpret the signs which the water gives to boaters. Thirty people were interested enough to fight the weather to attend this meeting. Their reward was the premiere of the first film of river scouting by air. Gaylord Smith piloted the plane and promises to do this again for us.

Roger Paris is to be our guest speaker Tuesday, April 15, at the Oakland YMCA.

Our pool sessions started April 7 at the Temescal High School in Oakland. These sessions will continue on April 21 and 28 and every Monday in May. Admission is 50 cents to take care of the lifeguard on duty. Bring warm clothes. After a swim in the warm water and a hot shower, you will feel better with these in the open air. Let's hope we won't be rained out.

We have been washed out on our recent scheduled weekend trips. Unfortunately, we are not really "river rats" so don't enjoy the rain and swollen rivers. We hope that by the weekend of April 19 and 20, Bryce Whitmore will be able to lead his trip on the Tuolumne and that the weather and waters will be more nearly normal.—E. M. Ridge.

ACROSS THE HILLS FROM BRISBANE

There were nine hardy souls who either wanted to live dangerously or had been housebound too long who turned out to follow Ethel Unselt across the hills from Brisbane to Daly City.

After learning the hard way that Brisbane is only a flag stop, we went up the hill and then followed the ridge past the transmitting station and then along a little creek to a final ascent and then a descent to Mission St., the homeward bus, and beer.

The threatening clouds gave the landscape a sombre aspect, and the flowers, though individually numerous, are obscured by the long grass. The view was somewhat hazy, but we were able to see that there is snow on the ridge extending south toward Mt. Hamilton.—Ethel Unselt.

Mountain Photography

The Vancouver section of the Alpine Club of Canada is sponsoring a mountain photography competition, open to anyone whose main source of livelihood is not photography.

Deadline for the competition is Friday, May 2; for exhibition, Monday, May 12. Entries should be sent to Hudson Optical Laboratories, Ltd., 736 Granville St., Vancouver 2, marked "Alpine Club Photographic Competition."

Black and white prints at least 8x10 inches and color transparencies 2x2 or 2¾x2¾ are accepted. There is no entry fee.

A leaflet giving full information on competition classes and required information is posted on the Club office bulletin board.

FOR SALE
DeSoto Surburban 1947, 8 passenger, permanent type rack on top. Holds plenty of camping gear... A good rugged car for trips into the back country.... Fluid drive, good rubber, runs good, $100. Lou Elliott, OL 5-3801 or HI 4-2054.

CAR CAMPING—RUSSIAN GULCH, APRIL 26-27

One very attractive camping spot on the Mendocino coast we have not visited for some time. About 160 miles from the Bay Area via Highway 101, 128 and 1. The park is about two miles north of the city of Mendocino. A longer drive, but certainly worthwhile, is to go to Jenner by the Russian River and visit Fort Ross on your way North along the coast. We had an interesting chat with the ranger when we were there and can recommend it to anyone who has not seen this historical spot.

A hike is planned on Saturday afternoon leaving the campground after lunch time. On Sunday there will be a longer hike passing by the Pygmy forest.

Please telephone the Transportation Coordinators if you need or can offer rides.—Pauline Praasterink, Art Lampert, Ruth Patschkowski.

MT. ST. ELIAS MAP

The USGS circular list 594 lists as a reprint of the reconnaisance edition now available the following Alaskan topographic map:

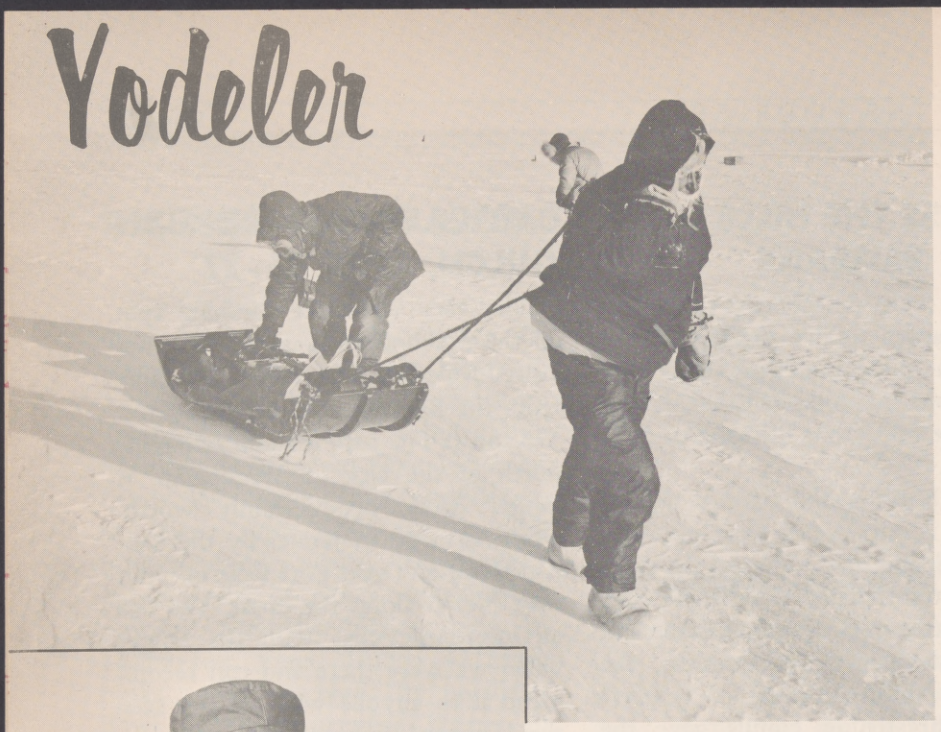
Mt. St. Elias, Alaska: 60-61° N. Lat.; 138-141° W. Longitude. Contour map with intervals of 200, 250 and 1,000 feet. About 25x30 inches.

Available for 50 cents from Geologic Survey, Federal Center, Denver, Colo.

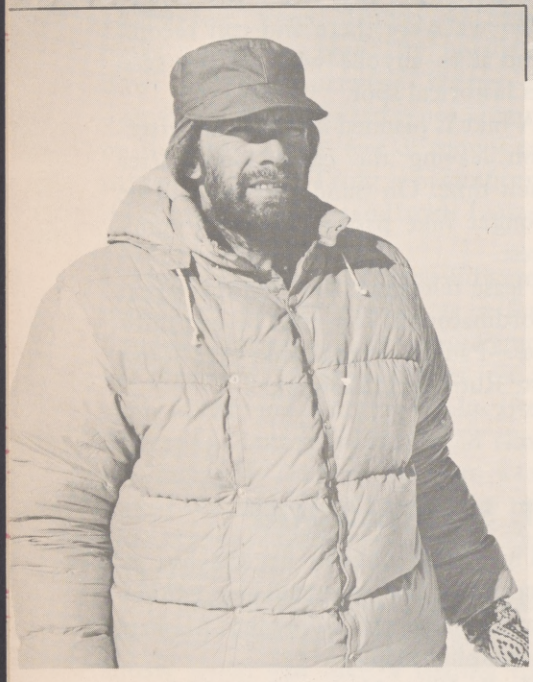
Don't forget the Annual Banquet on May 3. Send in your reservation to Georgella Perry, 2610 Etna St., Berkeley 4, Calif.

Yodeler

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Man hauling scientific instruments on the 9000' high Victoria Plateau.



WILL SIRI ..... Taken at the time that he and three other scientists were isolated on the 9000' Victoria Plateau, 400 miles from nearest Antarctic Station.

The Sierra Club
1050 Mills Tower 220 Bush Street
San Francisco 4, California

COLD FACTS ON ANNUAL BANQUET SPEECH

Will Siri, a Club Director, will speak and show films of his recent expedition to Antarctica at the Annual Banquet, May 3.

Some of the interesting facts he disclosed in a letter to Vivian Schagen, include in part:

"We traveled under the monumental title 'International Physiological Expedition to Antarctica', and it consisted of six men, three from U. C., two from England, and one from Germany. Expedition was organized by Dr. Nello Pace (Physiology Dept. U. of C.) and myself. Purpose of the trip was to study cold acclimatization and physiological 'stress'."

CLASSIFIED

Two-story cabin, 800 sq. ft., elec. range, refrig., and hot water heater, indoor plumbing, sleeps 15, ¼ mi. SW of Donner Ski Ranch. Sacrifice, $4000. G. A. Thorsen, WAlnut 1-2819.

For Sale: Hammer Single Foldboat, Touring model, practically brand new, complete with paddle and rudder, $145. O. R. Lirsch, 573 Jones Way, Sacramento 18.

Ladies' ski boots, approximately size 6½, one pair Bally and one Malojar, barely used. Women's White Stag navy blue, size 16, barely used ski pants. Sigrid Moeller, GLencourt 3-3421.

Used double Klepper touring Foldboat, including sailing gear and special SURFING BOW PIECE. Don Golden, 236 - 41st St., Oakland; OLympic 3-6617.

Special Long Weekend Trips

Chews Ridge to Coast. May 30-June 1, and July 4-6. Cost from $35. Details and reservations from Joe Wampler, Box 45, Berkeley 1.

Santa Lucia Mountains

Carmel's Wilderness Back Country, Base camp type of trip. Weekends from $15; by week from $6 per day. May 23 through July 6.